

Docket No.: FUT-0104
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masaaki Nagatsu

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: MICROWAVE PLASMA STERILIZING
METHOD AND DEVICE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

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Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document

- ☒ Documents have been cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or international application, or its related application. A copy of the communication is attached hereto, accompanied by English translation of at least relevant part, if it is not in English. English translation of the document is not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).
- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date or within three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), OR is being filed concurrent with filing of the Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) or the Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)).

Dated: September 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Christopher J. Wickstrom

Registration No.: 57,199

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Correspondence Customer Number: 23353

IAP12 Re: d PCT/PTO 18 SEP 2006

PTO/SB/08a/b (07-06)

Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Masaaki Nagatsu
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	FUT-0104

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-4931261-A	06-05-1990	Jacob	
	AB	US-5512244-A	04-30-1996	Griffiths et al.	
	AC	US-5619020-A	04-08-1997	Jones et al.	
	AD	US-6149878-A	11-21-2000	Jacob et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-2003-135571-A	05-13-2003	Toshiba Corp.		
	BB	JP-2002-102313-A	04-09-2002	KSA KK		
	BC	JP-2001-326216-A	11-22-2001	Shibaura Mechatronics Corp.		
	BD	JP-2001-149918-A	06-05-2001	Japan Organo Co., Ltd.		
	BE	JP-2000-308675-A	11-07-2000	Ethicon Inc.		
	BF	JP-11-506677-A	06-15-1999	Abtox, Inc.		
	BG	JP-11-505166-A	05-18-1999	MDT Corporation		
	BH	JP-11-501530-A	02-09-1999	Graves Clinton		
	BI	JP-11-278444-A	10-12-1999	Ruediger Haaga GMBH		
	BJ	JP-10-129627-A	05-19-1998	Fujimori Kogyo KK		
	BK	JP-06-263120-A	09-20-1994	Sando Iron Works Co., Ltd.		
	BL	JP-02-279160-A	11-15-1990	Abtox Inc.		
	BM	JP-46-8075-A	06-10-1971	Rayland et al.		
	BN	JP-06-505171-A	06-16-1994	United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Griffiths, et al.		
	BO	JP-01-502883-A	10-05-1989	JACOB Adir		
	BP	JP-63-89162-A	04-20-1988	KK Plasma System		
	BQ	JP-61-11049-A	01-18-1986	Optical Coatings Japan		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	International Search Report	

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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